

QA-241  
Bishop-Long House  
309 South Liberty Street  
Centreville  
Private

circa 1815-30  
circa 1830-40  
1892

The Bishop-Long House is significant for its historical association with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and for a variety of interesting architectural details.

The house was probably constructed circa 1815-1830 as a 1 1/2 story four bay dwelling with a gambrel roof. At an early date, probably circa 1830-40, it was enlarged by a two story rear wing forming an L-plan house. This rear wing was later enlarged to extend across the entire rear facade. The original stair has been removed from the center passage and replaced by a tight open-string stair in a small, lobby-like stair hall to the rear of the passage. The four bay fenestration is unusual in this region, particularly combined with a house plan and form widely found in the area. Significant architectural details include two handsome Federal mantels, the Greek Revival mantel and stair, and a variety of interior woodwork dating to both periods.

Of equal interest is the association of this house with St. Paul's Church. It originally was located on the west side of South Liberty Street directly opposite the church and before 1892 served as the rectory. In that year the house was moved to the present location and was replaced with a new Victorian rectory.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Old St. Paul's Rectory

AND/OR COMMON

Long House, Bishop-Long House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

309 South Liberty Street

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

## PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—COMMERCIAL

—PARK

—EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—MILITARY

—OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Julia G. Long

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

309 South Liberty Street

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: TSP 4

Folio #: 314

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

QA-241

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bishop-Long House is located on the east side of South Liberty Street in Centreville approximately one block south of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This house was originally located on the west side of South Liberty Street directly across from St. Paul's Church and for much of the 19th century served as the Episcopal rectory. In 1892, however, the house was moved to the present location and a new Victorian rectory was built in its place.

The Bishop-Long house is of frame construction and was built in at least two and possibly three parts. The original section, fronting the street, is 1 1/2 stories high, four bays long and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at either end of the gambrel roof. The house was later enlarged to the rear (now east) by a two story frame addition that extends across the entire east wall. Framing evidence under the first floor suggests that this addition was made in two stages, with the center and south portion occurring first and the north section later.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

The front facade of the house faces west to Liberty Street. The door with four-light transom is offset to left of center with one 9/6 window to the left and two 9/6 windows to the right. Three 6/6 shed roof dormers are ranged across the second story. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation and is covered with wood shingle siding. The eaves are boxed in and trimmed with complex crown mold and bed mold. The roof is covered with wood shingles.

On the south gable wall of the original house, there is a 9/6 window to the left of the flush center chimney on the first floor, a pair of 6/6 windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable and a single cellar window opening piercing the brick foundation. Wide beaded rakeboards survive on the gable eaves, the siding is wood shingle.

The south wall of the rear addition extends about four inches to the south of the original house. A flush brick chimney is centered on this wall as well, with one 9/6 window to the left on the first floor and a 6/6 window in the same position on the second floor. The eaves are also trimmed with beaded rakeboards, the siding is wood shingle.

The fenestration of the rear wall of the addition is asymmetrical. There are doors in the north and

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

south bays of the first floor, with one 6/6 window to the left of the north door and a small four-light window near the center. On the second floor, there are 6/6 windows in the south and center bays, while the north bay has been extended out over the rear porch.

On the north gable wall of the original house, there are two 9/6 windows flanking the chimney on the first floor and two 6/6 windows in the upper gable. The rakeboard survives for both the front and the rear pitches of the early roof, clearly delineating the original gambrel profile.

A small flush chimney is centered on the north wall of the rear addition, with flanking 6/6 windows on both the first and second floors.

The interior of the original house consists of a center passage plan with single rooms flanking the passage. The stair was removed from the center passage when the house was enlarged and was shifted to a smaller stair hall immediately to the rear of the original passage. Early trim surviving in the passage includes the front door architrave consisting of a beaded fascia with cove/astragal backband typical of the Federal period, a simple beaded two-piece chairrail with a plain nosing, and a beaded and rabbeted baseboard and front door with Greek ogee/astragal panel mold,

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

both typical of the Greek Revival period. The rear door from the passage to the stair hall has been altered and enlarged and the doors from the passage to each flanking room have been enlarged and retrimmed with reused cove/astragal backband molding.

The south room on the first floor is somewhat larger than the north room. A fireplace with Federal mantel is centered on the south gable wall. The mantel consists of a beaded board surround with paneled pilasters with reeded caps flanking the opening, and paneled side blocks and a reeded center block below a lozenge dentil course and complex molded shelf that breaks out above the side blocks. Original Federal cove/astragal architrave trim, beaded baseboard trim and two-piece chairrail survives intact. A door in the center of the rear wall opens into the rear addition. This door opening is trimmed with plain trim and corner blocks and is fitted with an eight-panel Greek Revival door with ogee panel molds.

In the smaller north room, the fireplace is centered on the north wall and is flanked by 9/6 windows. The opening has been blocked but the original Federal mantel survives. This mantel consists of a board surround with broken-field fascia and crossetted

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

ogee/astragal backband framing the opening below a plain frieze, reeded center and side blocks and a complex shelf that breaks out above the sideblocks.

The window architraves, beaded baseboard and two-piece chairrail match the trim in the south room.

The center passage plan is repeated on the second story of the original house. The passage is partitioned to form an unheated chamber at the west end, and more recently, a small closet has been added in the northeast corner over the approximate location of the original stair. Several other changes are also evident, presumably dating to the late-19th century move. The original large brick chimneys were replaced with smaller flues, leaving seams in the floor to identify the size and position of the original fireplaces, and the partition between the passage and the south room was replaced with beaded Victorian paneling and a batten door. A door in the rear (east) wall of the south room leads down two steps to the second floor of the rear addition. Early trim on the second floor of the original house includes cove/astragal architrave trim on the interior doors and the south gable windows, beaded baseboard, and a six-panel Federal door in the north chamber.

The roof is standard gambrel construction, with

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

the upper rafter pairs supported by flat curb plates supported by the ceiling joists, which are joined to the lower rafter pairs. The gable studs are secured with a combination of double-struck transitional nails and early machine made nails, suggesting a construction date of circa 1815-30.

The center and south portion of the two story rear addition appears to date to circa 1830-50. This early addition was later enlarged to the north to cover the entire rear facade.

The first floor of the addition consists of a small lobby-like stair hall at the rear of the front passage, a dining room to the southeast and a kitchen to the northeast. The stair rises to a landing against the north wall, then turns 180 degrees and continues against the east wall to the second floor. It is an open-string stair with a chamfered square newel, square balusters, a plain carriage and a simple rail. The carriage piece is decorated with a band of Greek ogee/astragal molding and the area below the carriage is enclosed with vertical beaded board paneling. A beaded batten door opens onto a stair to the cellar.

The doorway from the stair hall to the dining room to the southeast is fitted with an eight-panel Greek Revival door below an open transom with vertical



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.6 DESCRIPTION

diamond-section wood bars, similar to transoms found in at least three other houses on South Liberty Street. These transoms were probably added when central heating was added to aid air circulation. Early trim in the dining room includes rabbeted baseboard and a mantel on the south wall. This mantel consists of a board surround with a routed architrave and plain cornerblocks framing the opening below a plain frieze, small plain sideblocks and a molded shelf. The moldings include both Federal and Greek profiles, suggesting a date of circa 1830's. A modern door in the east wall of the dining room opens onto the rear porch.

The kitchen is entirely modern.

A partially excavated cellar extends under the original house. The first floor framing is unusual in that the joists run parallel to the front facade and are joined to three cross-sills or girts, one in front of each chimney and one bisecting the center of the house. There is no access to the minimal crawl space under the rear addition but the framing suggests two additional periods of construction.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bishop-Long House is significant for its historical association with St. Paul's Episcopal Church and for a variety of interesting architectural details.

The house was probably constructed circa 1815-1830 as a 1 1/2 story four bay dwelling with a gambrel roof. At an early date, probably circa 1830-40, it was enlarged by a two story rear wing forming an L-plan house. This rear wing was later enlarged to extend across the entire rear facade. The original stair has been removed from the center passage and replaced by a tight open-string stair in a small, lobby-like stair hall to the rear of the passage. The four bay fenestration is unusual in this region, particularly combined with a house plan and form widely found in the area. Significant architectural details include two handsome Federal mantels, the Greek Revival mantel and stair, and

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

a variety of interior woodwork dating to both periods.

Of equal interest is the association of this house with St. Paul's Church. It originally was located on the west side of South Liberty Street directly opposite the church and before 1892 served as the rectory. In that year the house was moved to the present location and was replaced with a new Victorian rectory.

QA-241

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Emory, Frederick. Queen Anne's County, Maryland.  
Baltimore, 1950.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

4/21/82

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

Field Notebook QA-27; Recorded August 10, 1981.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



QA-241 Bishop-Long House  
309 South Liberty Street  
Centreville, Maryland  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
West (front) facade



QA-241 Bishop-Long House  
309 South Liberty Street  
Centreville, Maryland  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
Rear (east) facade